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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 021911-001110US
Client Ref. No.: OBM77CIP

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Pamela Shelton

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Peter L. Stern, et al.

Application No.: 10/520,502

Filed: January 3, 2005

For: 5T4 ANTIGEN EXPRESSION

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 2720

Examiner: NOBLE, Marcia Stephens

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1632

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER
37 C.F.R. 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in reply to the Office Action mailed May 30, 2006, which set August 30, 2006 as the initial deadline for response. This Response is thus believed to be timely filed. Reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Revisions to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 6 of this paper and include seven (7) attached replacement sheets of replacement drawings.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 17 of this paper.